IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the specification as follows:

At page 10 lines 1-6, please amend the paragraph as follows:

Fig. 7 illustrates a roaming settlement system 200 and Fig. 12 illustrates a method for settlement of charges for Internet connection services 1200. The system includes an authentication server 204, a routing server 208 and a central settlement server 212. In the preferred embodiment, the system 200 also includes an FTP/Web server 216. In the preferred embodiment, the server 204 is an Internet server such as is commercially available from companies like HP, IBM, SUN and DEC. The servers 208 and 212 are Unix compatible servers such as are commercially available from SUN and other companies.

At page 12 lines 3-10, please amend the paragraph as follows:

The central settlement server 212 includes a roaming loader server module 240, a filtering software module 244, a report software module 248, a roaming raw database 252 and a roaming history database 256. The software module 240 receives daily requests from the software module 228 to transfer data from the database 232 to the server 212. When the data is received at the server 1212, the module 240 causes the data to be stored in the database 252 (operation 1202). The filtering software module 244 processes ("cleans") the data stored in the database 252 to put the data in a form that can be incorporated into reports (operation 1204). After data has been cleaned by the module 244, it is stored in the data base 256 (operation 1206).

At page 13 lines 3-10, please amend the paragraph as follows:

Data is outputted from the roaming raw database 252 in the same format as it was inputted and is processed ("cleaned") by the filtering software module 244 (operation 1204). Data cleaning is required to remove duplicate records, remove irrelevant records and remove error records. Records relating to the same basic service type but different service sources may have slightly different record formats. The data cleaning operation also reformats non-conforming records into a normalized form for each basic service type.

At page 13 lines 18-22, please amend the paragraph as follows:

After the data has been cleaned by the software module 244, it is stored in the roaming history database 256 (operation 1206). In the preferred embodiment the databases 252 and 256 are Oracle® databases. The server 212 is a SUN or SUN compatible (i.e. SPARC® microprocessor) server running the Solaris® operating system. Other types of servers, operating systems and databases could also be used in the present invention.

At page 14 lines 1-5, please amend the paragraph as follows:

The report software module 248 takes data from the database 256 and uses it to generate settlement reports that describe the amount of time the user 144 was connected to the Internet through the system operated by the local ISP (i.e., by the local ISP who operates the server 204) (operation 1208). Once the reports are generated by the module 248, they are stored in a local file system on the server 212. The reports are then transmitted to the server 216 by FTP (operation 1210).